

WASHINGTON STATE

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OFFICER

MONTHLY REPORT

March 2013

CATEGORY	2013	2012	YTD 13	YTD 12
DOE INCIDENTS	0	0	1	0
FIRE	24	9	31	22
HAZMAT	211	232	594	681
OTHER	85	67	243	209
911 OUTAGES	1	2	2	8
SAR	46	40	134	134
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
*WEATHER	2	8	10	17
CGS INCIDENTS	0	0	0	0
TSUNAMI DEBRIS	4	0	6	0
TOTAL	373	358	1021	1072
ESAR (NOT INCL IN TOTAL)	(8)	(5)	(17)	(13)
**ADDITIONAL WEATHER ALERTS (NOT IN TOTAL)	(16)	(0)	(65)	(0)

*Please note: Prior to January 1, 2013, only the initial alert for a large weather system or string of systems was counted in statistics. For the months of January & February, 2013 the WEATHER category will show statistics for all weather alerts received, the initial and all subsequent alerts considered to be a part of the weather system(s).

** Additional Weather Alerts: Beginning March 1, this statistic will reflect Weather Alert Notifications received from the National Weather Service but are not an initial weather event or close-out (Wx continue). They will be annotated on the overall statistic but not reflected in the overall totals, as are ESAR.

LEGEND

DOE	Department of Energy, Hanford Site
SAR	Search and Rescue Missions
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials Incidents
WEATHER	Weather Incidents (throughout state, i.e., Flood, High Winds, and Snow)
CGS	Columbia Generating Station
FIRE	Forest Fire Incidents
OTHER	This category includes a wide variety of incidents, i.e., Tsunami, Earthquake, Critical Incident Stress Debriefings, Bomb Threat, etc...
911	911 Service Outages
ESAR	Evidence Search Mission (not included in total numbers)

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- On March 2, the US Coast Guard in Astoria, Oregon called to report an 8 ft x 5 ft section of a fiberglass boat (possible tsunami debris) had washed ashore near Oysterville on the Long Beach Peninsula in Pacific County. The boat had foreign marine growth attached to it and was resting high up on the beach away from the high tide line.
- On March 9, Skamania County conducted a search for a male who reportedly fell over a cliff on Table Mountain. A helicopter was coordinated from the USCG in Astoria and ground searchers were coordinated from Clark, Lewis, Klickitat, Yakima and Cowlitz Counties and Oregon to assist. The search was suspended on the afternoon of March 11 with no one being found. The county had not received any reports of anyone missing.
- On March 11, the National Weather Service issued a Flood Watch for rivers originating in the Olympics and northern Cascades from the Snoqualmie Basin northward. On March 12, the Flood Watch for the Bogachiel River near La Push was upgraded to a Flood Warning. The watch and warning were cancelled on March 13.
- On March 18, the National Weather Service issued a Winter Storm Watch for the North and Central Cascade Mountains and the Olympic Mountains.
- On March 19, the National Weather Service upgraded the Winter Storm Watch to a Winter Storm Warning for the Cascades along with the Olympic Mountains and the Okanogan Highlands. A Gale Warning was also issued for the Northern Inland Waters and Puget Sound/Hood Canal. And later a High Wind Watch was issued for San Juan, Island, Whatcom, and Skagit counties and a High Surf Advisory for the North and Central Washington Coast.
- On March 20, the National Weather Service upgraded the High Wind Watch to a High Wind Warning for Island, Jefferson and Pacific Counties. A Flood Warning was also issued for the Skokomish River in Mason County however the river was expected to fall below flood stage late that afternoon. The High Wind Warning was cancelled on the evening of March 20.
- On March 23, Yakima County requested the assistance of a helicopter with a rescue hoist to extract an injured snowmobiler. Snohomish County, King County and the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) were called to assist. The county later cancelled the request because they were able to obtain snowmobile searchers with a sled to extract the injured person, deciding they did not need the helicopter after all.

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- On March 23, Cowlitz County requested additional ground searchers to assist in an evidence search near Kelso. Lewis County responded with searchers.
- On March 24, Mason County initiated a search for a 39 year-old female who walked away from her home on or around 1700 hours on March 23. Mason County requested the assistance of 12 to 15 ground searchers. Pierce and Thurston Counties provided the ground searchers and four wheel drive vehicles. The mission was closed on the evening of March 24. The subject was not found.
- On March 24, Whatcom County requested helicopter assistance to rescue an injured snowboarder on Mount Shuksan and an injured snowmobiler on Mount Baker. Contact was made with Snohomish and King County; however they were unable to provide assistance due to impending darkness and fuel restrictions. The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) was then contacted for assistance from Whidbey Island Naval Air Station (NAS). The snowmobiler on Mt Baker was transported by helicopter from Whidbey Island NAS. The snowboarder on Mount Shuksan was rescued by local volunteers on the ground.
- On March 27, a huge landslide occurred on Whidbey Island threatening several homes. One home was immediately destroyed and seventeen more homes below the slide were threatened. Five of these homes were occupied and twelve people were evacuated. Two homes just above the slide were also yellow-tagged (i.e. residents were only allowed to enter a limited amount of time) with fifteen additional homes above the slide initially evacuated, but later the residents were allowed back in. No state resources were initially requested; however this may change in the future as this landslide progresses. As of the end of this month this landslide incident is still on-going.
- On March 29, Kitsap County requested assistance in the search for a missing seven year-old boy in the Point-No-Point area. Pierce County responded with two search dogs. The subject was safely located on a beach.
- On March 30, Mt Rainier National Park requested assistance from Tacoma Mountain Rescue and use of a helicopter with a hoist for an injured snowboarder just below Camp Muir. Pierce and King Counties were contacted and a team from Tacoma Mountain Rescue responded to assist with bringing the injured person down from the mountain. Injured person was rescued in the early morning of March 31.

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SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

For the month of March 2013 the SEOO's:

- Issued 28 warnings to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies.
- Issued 27 warnings to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies.
- Conducted 1971 notifications to state agency liaisons for imminent or occurring emergencies.
- Coordinated 34 resources for search, rescue, recovery and response operations.
- Participated in 9 exercises of which 1 was a vessel spill drill.
- Conducted 1,984 National Warning System Tests (NAWAS).
- Conducted 292 Comprehensive Emergency Management Network (CEMNET) radio tests. (connects all counties and many cities via Zetron Radio Console).
- Conducted 4 dedicated line tests with the Department of Energy, Hanford Site (DOE).
- Conducted 5 dedicated line tests with the Columbia Generating Station (CGS).
- Conducted 4 Emergency Alert System (EAS) tests. Broadcasts emergency information to the public via television and radio mediums.
- Conducted 31 All Hazards Alert Broadcast System (AHAB) Daily Function tests. Tests functional capability of all coastal and Puget Sound AHAB siren systems.
- Conducted 0 All Hazards Alert Broadcast System (AHAB) Siren tests. Tests are only conducted on even numbered months. Activates coastal and Puget Sound voice and tone sirens during tsunami and other hazardous incidents.
- Conducted 30 Olympic Peninsula Public Safety Alliance Network (OPSCAN) tests. Connects public safety organizations throughout the Olympic Peninsula.

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- Conducted 16 State Agency Emergency Network (STAEN) tests. Connects state agencies via an 800 MHz radio system.
- Conducted 2 King County 800 MHz Radio System tests. Connects the Alert and Warning Center with King County key emergency management and response organizations.
- Conducted 0 Satellite Phone and Radio tests which are conducted by request of local jurisdictions. Connects local, state and federal organization via satellite systems.